

A bill for an act

relating to natural resources; extending the Casey Jones Trail; establishing a new state trail; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 85.015, subdivision 2, by adding a subdivision.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 85.015, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Casey Jones Trail, Murray, Redwood, ~~and~~ Pipestone, and Rock Counties.** (a) The trail shall originate in Lake Shetek State Park in Murray County and include the six-mile loop between Currie in Murray County and Lake Shetek State Park. From there, the first half of the trail shall trail southwesterly to Slayton in Murray County; thence westerly to the point of intersection with the most easterly terminus of the state-owned abandoned railroad right-of-way, commonly known as the Casey Jones unit; thence westerly along said Casey Jones unit to Pipestone in Pipestone County; thence southwesterly to Split Rock Creek State Park in Pipestone County; thence southeasterly to Blue Mounds State Park in Rock County; thence southerly to Luverne and Schoneman Park in Rock County, and there terminate. The second half of the trail shall commence in Lake Shetek State Park in Murray County and trail northeasterly to Walnut Grove in Redwood County; thence northeasterly to Redwood Falls in Redwood County to join with the Minnesota River State Trail.

(b) The trail shall be developed as a multiuse, multiseasonal, dual treadway trail. Nothing herein shall abrogate the purpose for which the Casey Jones unit was originally established, and the use thereof shall be concurrent.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 85.015, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 26. **Des Moines River Valley Trail, Jackson, Cottonwood, and Murray Counties.** The trail shall originate in Jackson County at the Minnesota-Iowa border and connect with the Dickinson Trail in Mini-Wakan State Park in Iowa. To the greatest extent possible, the trail shall follow the Des Moines River Valley, extending northwesterly through Jackson County to Kilen Woods State Park, through Cottonwood County, and into Murray County. The trail shall terminate at Casey Jones Trail in Murray County.

Sec. 3. **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.**

The commissioner of natural resources shall work with Friends of the Casey Jones Trail in planning and developing the extension under section 1.

Sec. 4. **TRAIL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.**

The commissioner of natural resources shall work with Friends of the Jackson County Trails in planning and developing the Des Moines River Valley Trail.